

**MINUTES OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY
TENANT-LANDLORD COMMISSION**

September 18, 2008

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
Conference Room #9
Chair Liff presiding

Attendees:

Commissioners: Aho, Liff, McRae,
Geier-Smith, Kocsis, Gomez

Absentees:

Rosier, Kiffney

Staff Attending:

Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief
Consumer Affairs
Vee Johnson, Staff Liaison
Consumer Affairs Branch

Guest:

Supervisor Catherine Hudgins
Hunter Mill District
Chairman Housing and Community
Development Committee

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by Chair Liff

Minutes

The July 17, 2008, minutes were approved.

Reports

- Chair Liff expressed concern about the rising cost of rental housing in Fairfax County. As an example, The Lofts at Park Crest, a luxury loft condominium in McLean was converted to rental property when it did not sell, which rents as high as \$2,599.

- **Committee reports**

Channel 16 Advisory Committee – Commissioner Aho and Commissioner Geier-Smith discussed their plans to compose a letter to accompany mailings of the TLC sign to Fairfax County landlords. They will present the letter to the Commission at a future date.

Staff reports

- Liaison Johnson will present information for renters living in housing facing foreclosure and foreclosure rescue scams at a Foreclosure Information Meeting hosted by Supervisor John W. Foust on Thursday, September 25, 2008 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center at 1086 Elden Street, in Herndon, Virginia.
- Liaison Johnson will be meeting with the Breakfast Club at Bailey's Elementary School to discuss tenant rights and responsibilities on Thursday, October 30, 2008. This is a group of parents who meet on Thursdays to get information about community resources.
- Liaison Johnson attended the Culmore Apartment Managers Association meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2008. Copies of the current Tenant-Landlord brochure were distributed as well as information about the upcoming foreclosure meeting.
- There were no questions or comments regarding the statistical reports.

Commission Matters

- The attendance record was circulated and approved.
- There are currently two vacancies, one landlord, and one tenant.
- Commissioner Liff may not be available for the October meeting. She will inform staff at a later date. Vice-Chair Aho will preside if she is absent.

Old Business

1. Tenant-Landlord brochure
 - Copies of the English version of the Tenant-Landlord brochure were distributed to the Commissioners. Input was requested from Commissioners Kocsis and Gomez regarding the Spanish version. Suggestions were provided by the Commissioners.
2. Guest Invitations
 - Chair Liff has been in contact with Supervisor Connolly's office. There is a possibility he might be available for the November 20, 2008, meeting. Commissioner Liff will continue to monitor his availability for a future TLC meeting.

New Business

1. Guests
 - Chair Liff introduced Supervisor Catherine Hudgins, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors' Housing & Community Development Committee. Supervisor Hudgins shared information about her tenure as a Commissioner with the Tenant-Landlord Commission and her continued work to make sure safe, decent and affordable housing is available to all who live or work in Fairfax County. She addressed the county's efforts to preserve affordable housing and shared future goals. Commissioners expressed their concerns and support for this shared goal with the Housing & Community Development Committee.

2. Fairfax County Apartment Communities List

- Liaison Johnson is working to complete the apartment list. Tentative completion date is mid-November 2008.
- Publications currently available to the tenant-landlord community were reviewed.
- Liaison Johnson presented a brief summary of the presentation for renters and homeowners facing foreclosure. Commissioner Gomez requested that the full presentation be presented to the Commission. Liaison Johnson will present at the October 16, 2008 meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.